

# J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program Reduction ECONOMIC IMPACT

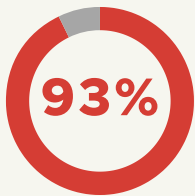
This fact sheet refers to findings from a survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020. Included are responses from 659 seasonal businesses and camps nationwide, 25 in Montana.

## SUMMER WORK TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS\*

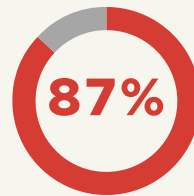
	2019	2020	
United States	108,303	4,885	95% ↓
Montana	1,954	29	99% ↓

\*Provided by the U.S. Department of State. Region specific 2020 figures refer to On Program SWT Exchange Visitors as of August 3rd, 2020 SEVIS report.

## NATIONWIDE IMPACT ON SEASONAL BUSINESSES



Cannot meet peak staffing needs without J-1 Exchange Visitors



Reported lower quality of customer service or longer customer wait times

2 in 3 Lost revenue

1 in 7

Laid off, furloughed or reduced wages of full time Americans

Half Shortened their season or hours

1 in 5

Could not open this summer

In Montana, 15 businesses reported an average loss of

**\$104,802**

in Summer 2020

# What business owners in Montana are saying:

Quotes were provided by seasonal businesses who completed the economic impact survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020.

**“\$350,000  
in lost  
revenue.”**

**“We are  
closed 2 days  
a week due to  
staffing  
shortages.”**

**“The few  
employees we  
do have worked  
non-stop all  
summer, some  
without days  
off.”**

**“Had to reduce the  
amount of rooms we  
are selling because we  
do not have the  
housekeeping staff to  
clean the rooms or the  
front desk staff to  
handle the normal  
amount of check ins.”**

**“\$300,000  
in lost  
revenue.”**

**“Some workers  
have quit as  
they are so  
drained from  
overtime.”**

**“Difficult to  
hire non J-1  
workers  
because of  
workforce  
shortage.”**

**“Aged  
owners  
working  
harder.”**

**“Unable  
to open at  
all this  
season.”**